

Message Text

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51

ACTION EUR-25

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R 091529 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6900

INFO AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

USMISSION NATO

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E. O. 11652 N/A

TAGS: PINT, DA

SUBJ: GLISTRUP'S PROGRESSIVE PARTY

REF: COPENHAGEN A-073

SUMMARY: SHARPLY VARYING RESULTS LAST TWO POLLS GIVE UNCLEAR PICTURE OF TREND IN GLISTRUP SUPPORT. ONE RECORDS RISE FROM EARLY APRIL LEVEL OF 25 PERCENT TO 26 PERCENT, BUT OTHER SHOWS DROP TO 18 PERCENT OF ELECTORATE. POLITICIANS ENGAGING GLISTRUP IN DEBATE AROUND COUNTRY, WITH INDIFFERENT RESULTS. END SUMMARY.

1. GALLUP POLL CONDUCTED APRIL 7-24, PUBLISHED THIS WEEK, SHOWS GLISTRUP ADVANCING TO 26 PERCENT OF VOTE, AND ONLY 0.9 PERCENT BEHIND SOCIAL DEMOCRATS. OTHER FIGURES WERE: SOC DEM 26.9; RADICAL 10.9; CONSERVATIVE 10.0; MODERATE LIBERAL 10.8; PEOPLE'S SOCIALIST 9.1; LEFT SOCIALIST 2.2; OTHER PARTIES 4.1.

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2. HOWEVER, MOST RECENT POLL, CONDUCTED APRIL 26-27 BYKASPER GLISTRUP, INDICATS DROP IN GLISTRUP SUPPORT TO 18 PERCENT. POLL GIVES SOC DEM 29.0; RADICAL 12.0; CONSERVATIVE 13.0; MODERATE LIBERAL 14.0; PEOPLES SOCIALIST 9.0; OTHER PARTIES 5.0.

3. GLISTRUP WAS FAVORITE THEME MAY DAY SPEECHES, RECEIVING BROAD-SIDE ATTACKS FROM PRIME MINISTER JORGENSEN, FOREIGN MINISTER ANDERSEN, AND OTHER SOCIAL DEMOCRATS, WHO CHARGED GLISTRUP WITH IRRESPONSIBLE ATTEMPT TO DISMANTLE WELFARE STATE.

4. MODERATE LIBERAL'S PAUL HARTLING, FORMER FOREIGN MINISTER AND FIRST PARTY LEADER TO ENGAGE GLISTRUP IN DIRECT DEBATE, ATTEMPTED APRIL 29 IN AALBORG TO EXPOSE INCONSISTENCIES IN GLISTRUP'S PROGRAM. HOWEVER, GLISTRUP DID NOT ALLOW HIMSELF TO BE DRAWN OUT BUT INSTEAD MAINTAINED USUAL PLANE OF GENERALITIES, AND OUTCOME MORE OR LESS A DRAW. OTHERS WHO HAVE DEBATED GLISTRUP, WITH SIMILAR RESULTS, INCLUDE CONSERVATIVE PARTY LEADER HAUNSTRUP CLEMMENSEN AND RADICAL LIBERAL SVEND HAUGAARD.

5. LAST GALLUP POLL SUBSTANTIATES PREVIOUS INDICATIONS (REF AIR) THAT MOST GLISTRUP SUPPORTERS ACTING IN PROTEST AGAINST OTHER PARTIES. ACCORDING POLL, ONLY 25 PERCENT OF GLISTRUP SUPPORTERS VOTE FOR GLISTRUP BECAUSE OF PROGRAM, WHILE 75 PERCENT VOTE FOR HIM " TO SHAKE UP OTHER PARTIES".

6 GLISTRUP'S ACTIVITIES AS TAX LAWYER STILL UNDER CLOSE LEGAL SCRUTINY EASTERN CIRCUIT COURT UPHELD ON MAY 8 EARLIER DECISION OF DANISH BAR ASSOCIATION FINING GLISTRUP 2000 KRONER (DOLS 320) FOR UNETHICAL PRACTICES. CHARGES OF ALLEGED VIOLATIONS OF PENAL CODE STILL PENDING DUNNIGAN

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